

INFORMATION PAPER

MILITARY VACCINE AGENCY

23 May 2006

SUBJECT: Immunization Recommendations for Service Members Supporting Border Security Operations

1. Purpose. To provide immunization recommendations for military personnel supporting border security operations.

2. Goals. Military personnel supporting border security operations need to keep their routine adult immunizations up-to-date. However, the risk of vaccine-preventable infection during these duties is not great enough to delay assignment pending immunization.

3. Immunization Recommendations.

a. Tetanus toxoid, reduced diphtheria toxoid and acellular pertussis (Tdap) vaccine or tetanus and diphtheria toxoids (Td) for adult use. Personnel should receive a single dose of Tdap for booster immunization against tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis if they received the last dose of tetanus toxoid-containing vaccine (e.g., Td) ≥ 10 years earlier. Td is acceptable, but does not protect against pertussis. Consistent with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) wound-management guidelines, anyone who requires a tetanus toxoid-containing vaccine as part of wound management should receive Tdap instead of Td, if they previously have not received Tdap. If Tdap is not available or was administered previously, administer Td.

b. Hepatitis A. All military personnel need hepatitis A immunity for military service. Personnel who have not completed the two-dose series should complete the hepatitis A immunization series (0, 6 months).

c. Hepatitis B. Personnel who started the hepatitis B immunization series should complete the three-dose regimen. If a dose is needed per the routine schedule (0, 1, and 6 months), give a dose now. Hepatitis B immunization is necessary for personnel with potential contact with blood or other body fluids (e.g., healthcare workers, mortuary affairs personnel).

d. Influenza. Seasonal influenza immunization is required for all military personnel. Immunize military personnel concurrent with the seasonal influenza immunization program.

e. Immunization Documentation. Document all immunizations using an immunization tracking system (e.g., MEDPROS, AFCITA).

4. Selected References.

a. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Vaccine-Preventable Diseases and Specific Vaccines. Available from: www.cdc.gov/node.do?id/0900f3ec8005df1f

b. Military Vaccine Agency. Vaccine Recommendations based on Military Segment. Available from: www.vaccines.mil/vaccinerecommendations

LTC Stephen M. Ford/703-681-3158

Approved by: COL Grabenstein